

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6986

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SUBJ: ENGINEERS OVERSEAS HANDBOOK - 1976 EDITION

REF: STATE A-2642

FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY RESPONSE TO REPAIR. NUMBERING
FOLLOWS THAT OF 1976 QUESTIONNAIRE ENCLOSURE TO REPAIR.

1. A. PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND CONSULTING ENGINEERS
ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER WITH PAKISTAN ENGINEERING COUNCIL
AND OBTAIN A REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE.

B. THE NUMBER OF ENGINEERS LICENSED AND PRACTICING IN
PAKISTAN IS NOT KNOWN.

C. FOREIGN ENGINEERS (INCLUDING U.S.) ARE REQUIRED TO
REGISTER AND OBTAIN A REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE SIMILAR TO
THEIR LOCAL COUNTERPARTS.

D. PAKISTAN ENGINEERING COUNCIL, ISLAMABAD.

E. TO REGISTER A FOREIGN ENGINEER IS REQUIRED TO
APPLY TO THE PAKISTAN ENGINEERING COUNCIL WITH A
REGISTRATION FEE. REGISTRATION IS VALID UPTO DECEMBER
31 OF EACH YEAR RENEWABLE YEARLY. ANY FOREIGNER WHO
DOES NOT HOLD ANY RECOGNIZED ENGINEERING QUALIFICATION
OR WHO IS A CORPORATE MEMBER OF AN ENGINEERING BODY, MAY
BE GRANTED A TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR A SPECIFIC PROJECT TO
WORK AS AN ASSOCIATE OF A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEER. FOR LICENSING, U.S. ENGINEERS MUST PRESENT
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DEGREE OR DIPLOMA FROM THOSE AMERICAN ENGINEERING

INSTITUTIONS ACCREDITED BY THE ENGINEER'S COUNCIL FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, NEW YORK. FOR PRACTICE IN PAKISTAN SEPARATE PERMISSION IS REQUIRED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND SUPPLIES.

2. THE INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERS, PAKISTAN, SCHEME 27 E GULBERG MARKET, LAHORE, PAKISTAN. PRESIDENT - MR. A.R. AKHOOND.

3. IT IS NOT NECESSARY FOR A U.S. CONSULTING ENGINEER TO HAVE A LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE IN PAKISTAN, BUT IN MOST CASES IT IS ADVISEABLE.

4. THERE ARE NO LEGAL REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING LOCAL PARTICIPATION IN ENGINEERING CONTRACTS BUT DE FACTO MOST GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS SPECIFY WHEN ANNOUNCING TENDERS THAT LOCAL PARTICIPATION IS REQUIRED. THERE IS NO LEGAL REQUIREMENT FOR LOCAL EMPLOYEE PARTICIPATION, BUT THE GOVERNMENT POLICY IS TO ENCOURAGE SUCH PARTICIPATION TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE.

5. (A) NO

(B) YES. BOTH THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS AND THROUGH PRICE BIDDING.

(C) GOVERNMENT AGENCIES PREFER PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR BIDDING.

(D) NO

(E) FOR LARGE AND SIGNIFICANT WORKS SPECIAL PRE-BID FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS ARE IMPOSED BUT THESE NOT TO AFFECT THE COSTS OF PRE-PROJECT PROPOSALS.

(F) NO. FOREIGN ENGINEERS PARTICIPATION IS GENERALLY DISCOURAGED UNLESS PARTICULAR EXPERTISE IS NOT AVAILABLE LOCALLY.

6. NO

7. CURRENCY MAY BE COVERTED AND FEES REPATRIATED ONLY WITH THE CONSENT OF THE STATE BANK OF PAKISTAN UPON PROOF THAT PRIOR PERMISSION TO OPERATE HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND SUPPLIES.
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PROVISION FOR TRANSMITTING PROFITS SHOULD BE AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE BANK WHEN A CONTRACT IS SIGNED. FOREIGN NATIONALS CAN REMIT UPTO 50 PERCENT OF MONTHLY SALARY, BUT NOT EXCEEDING 150 POUNDS STERLING, PER MONTH, FOR MAINTENANCE OF DEPENDENTS INHOME COUNTRY WITH PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND SUPPLIES.

8. (A) YES, IF THEIR STAY IN PAKISTAN IS 180 DAYS OR LONGER.

(B) 60 PERCENT

(C) YES

(D) YES, WITH THE APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT OF INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND SUPPLIES. FOREIGN TECHNICIANS EMPLOYED BY PAKISTANI INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS UNDER CONTRACTS OF SERVICES APPROVED BY GOVERNMENT ARE EXEMPT FROM INCOME TAX ON SALARY FOR THREE YEARS. THEIR EMPLOYER MAY PAY INCOME TAX ON THEIR BEHALF FOR AN ADDITIONAL 5 YEARS.

(E) DON'T KNOW. PAK-US AGREEMENT ON DOUBLE TAXATION PROVIDES SOME RELIEF.

9. (A) YES. FOREIGN (INCLUDING U.S. EXPATRIATE) MANAGERIAL AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WHO ARE TEMPORARY RESIDENTS MUST PAY A TAX ON INCOME DERIVED FROM PAKISTANI SOURCES OR FROM FOREIGN SOURCES CONTROLLED FROM PAKISTAN. NO DISTINCTION IS MADE BETWEEN A FOREIGN NATIONAL AND A PAKISTANI.

(B) PAKISTAN'S PERSONAL INCOME TAX IS CALCULATED ON A PROGRESSIVE BASIS WITH SPECIFIED EXEMPTIONS AND ALLOWANCES. INDIVIDUALS WITH TOTAL INCOME OF LESS THAN DOL\$1212 ARE NOT LIABLE TO TAX. PERSONS WHOSE TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME EXCEEDS DOL\$1212 ARE TAXED ON THE BASIS OF "TAXABLE INCOME". (TOTAL INCOME MINUS EXEMPTIONS). THE INDIVIDUAL TAX RATES RUN AS FOLLOWS:

UPTO DOL\$505 - 10 PERCENT

DOL\$505-1010 - DOL\$50.50 PLUS 20 PERCENT OF AMOUNT EXCEEDING DOL\$505

DOL\$1010-2020 - DOL\$151.50 PLUS 30 PERCENT OF AMOUNT EXCEEDING UNCLASSIFIED

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DOL\$1010

DOL\$2020-3030 - DOL\$454.50 PLUS 40 PERCENT OF AMOUNT EXCEEDING DOL\$2020

DOL\$3030-7070 - DOL\$858.50 PLUS 50 PERCENT OF AMOUNT EXCEEDING DOL\$3030

OVER DOL\$7070 - DOL\$2878.50 PLUS 60 PERCENT OF AMOUNT EXCEEDING DOL\$7070

(C) ON IMPORTATION AN UNDERTAKING IS REQUIRED TO BE FILED WITH CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES PLEDGING RE-EXPORT OF THE IMPORTED ITEMS.

10. MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, ISLAMABAD; MINISTRY OF PRODUCTION, ISLAMABAD, MINISTRY OF FUEL, POWER AND NATURAL RESOURCES, ISLAMABAD; WATER AND POWER DEVELOPMENT

AUTHORITY, LAHORE; PAKISTAN PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
ISLAMABAD; PAKISTAN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORP., KARACHI;
PAKISTAN MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, KARACHI;
PAKISTAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, KARACHI;
BOARD OF INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT, ISLAMABAD.

11. (A) THE NATIONAL LANGUAGE IS URDU. ENGLISH IS THE
COMMON LANGUAGE OF BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT.

(B) INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF METRIC WEIGHTS AND
MEASURES - OFFICIALLY EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1976, BUT THE
OLD BRITISH SYSTEM IS STILL USED IN MOST PRIVATE
COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

12. ACCORDING TO INFORMED SOURCES, THESE FRINGE
BENEFITS AMOUNT TO ABOUT 35 PERCENT.
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